

Iowa Department of Public Health
Division of Behavioral Health/Bureau of Substance Abuse
Opioid Update: July 2021

The Iowa Department of Public Health (IDPH) offers the Opioid Update to share information about opioid use and Iowa's efforts to address the national opioid epidemic. Please feel free to submit topics to RaChel Greenwood at rachel.greenwood@idph.iowa.gov.

In this issue:

- **Department News**
- **Opioid News**
- **Upcoming Trainings**

Department News

State Opioid Response (SOR2) Funding Announcement

The Iowa Department of Public Health (IDPH) is expanding the State Opioid Response (SOR2) grant. As a way of reaching more Iowans with a substance use disorder, IDPH is now accepting applications from any eligible provider of covered services for individuals with a stimulant and/or opioid use disorder.

Through funding made available by the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA), this comprehensive approach allows agencies to be more responsive in meeting the needs of individuals seeking services by providing a continuum of services rather than crisis-oriented care. These services include:

- Medication Assisted Treatment
- Care Coordination
- Peer Recovery Coaching
- Housing Assistance
- Dental Services
- Supplemental Needs

To learn more about this opportunity or to obtain an application please visit the IDPH MAT Provider Website at <https://idph.iowa.gov/mat/provider>. Applications to provide services will be accepted on an ongoing basis based on service need and funding availability. Please direct any questions to SOR@idph.iowa.gov.

Opioid News

NIH-funded study tests “one-stop” mobile clinics to deliver HIV, substance use care

A clinical trial funded by the National Institute on Drug Abuse (NIDA) is currently underway to assess differences in health and substance use outcomes for people who inject opioids and

access care through mobile clinics vs. the current standard of treatment (obtaining care through multiple community-based agencies).

Investigators will analyze the cost-effectiveness and logistic value of delivering care through mobile clinics compared to community-based agencies. As Dr. Volkow, the Director of NIDA states, "Too often, lifesaving addiction treatment and HIV care are administered by a patchwork of health professionals under several different roofs, presenting major access challenges for people who use opioids and other drugs. By providing these services through a welcoming one-stop shop, and meeting people where they are, we hope to find a way to more effectively treat people for HIV and substance use disorders."

For more information about this study, please click this link: [NIDA](#)

Long-lasting medications may improve treatment satisfaction in people with opioid use disorder

A randomized trial conducted in Australia compared patient-reported outcomes for daily sublingual buprenorphine treatment (tablets given under the tongue) to a weekly or monthly injection of extended-release buprenorphine for opioid use disorder. Investigators found that the extended-release injection of buprenorphine produced generally more positive patient-reported outcomes compared to daily oral buprenorphine. No significant differences in illicit opioid use or side effects were found between the two study groups.

NIDA leaders commented on this study and noted that using patient preference and patient-reported outcomes as measure of interest (rather than drug abstinence) fills an important research gap and that extended-release formulations may offer particular benefits in settings where patients have difficulty accessing consistent care, such as justice settings, populations experiencing homelessness and rural communities.

For more information about this study and NIDA commentary, please click this link: [JAMA](#)

Upcoming Trainings

Recovery Coach Training Vouchers

The Iowa Department of Public Health's State Opioid Response (SOR2) grant has collaborated with the Connecticut Community for Addiction Recovery (CCAR) to offer vouchers to Iowa residents who are interested in attending CCAR's Recovery Coach Academy (RCA) and Ethical Considerations for Recovery Coaches.

- CCAR Recovery Coach Academy© is a 5-day intensive training academy focusing on providing individuals with the skills needed to guide, mentor and support anyone who would like to enter into or sustain long-term recovery from an addiction to alcohol or other drugs
- Ethical Considerations is a 16 hour training that helps coaches, and anyone else working in the peer role understand how critical it is to be ethically responsible

In order to receive a voucher an individual must commit to attending the entire training and share how they intend to utilize what they've learned. For available training dates and times, please visit the CCAR [website](#).

If interested in obtaining a voucher to attend an available training, or for more information, please contact Sarah Vannice at sarah.vannice@idph.iowa.gov.